

O YE OF LITTLE

SUSAN THORPE

Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, England

thorped@hotmai.com

FAITH ECKLER has a FICKLE HEART. In isolation, however, FAITH is not the easiest of names when it comes to indulging in word play. Like her husband, she is monosyllabic. The very first thing that struck me about FAITH is that she is made of straight line letters, unlike ROSS who is 'curvy almost to a T' (oxymoron?).

TRANSPOSING WITH FAITH

FAITH = AH, FIT

'Faith' only comes into her own, it seems, when she visits warmer climes, as witness...

ATFIH, FATHI, TAFIH (all in Egypt) FATIH (Libya) FIHTA (Lebanon) FTAIH (Syria)

HAFIT (Oman) HAFTI (Iraq) HATIF (Iraq) ITFAH (Yemen) TIFAH (Libya)

SICKLE-FEATHERS = SEE FAITH ECKLER

FAITHLESS = FLASHIEST

FAITH SHONE = THE FASHION

FAITH DOSES = TOADFISHES

INTERFAITH = TRAIN THIEF

FAITH HEALER = I FEAR HEALTH

THE FAIR MAID OF PERTH = FAITH HIRED FARM POET

FAINT HOPE is made from FAITH and NOPE, both with their letters in the correct order

FAITH MAKES SHIFTGRAMS

The letters of FAITH can be shifted along the alphabet n places and then rearranged to make a shiftgram.

FAITH + 1 = gbjui = BUJGI (Iran)

FAITH + 7 = mhpao = AMPHO (Gk. 'both'), PHOMA (a fungus)

FAITH + 19 = ytbma = TYMBA (the Xhosa-speaking people of the SE part of South Africa)
BATYM (Russia)

FAITH + 21 = avdoc = DACOV (Slovakia)

FAITH AND ROSS

When FAITH and ROSS travel to England, the RAF IS HOST

FAITH and ROSS met FRED in STAFFORDSHIRE

FORSYTHIAS FAITH and ROSS married - *why?* The two of them aren't even capable of making a word together without at least one extraneous letter. The answer lies in numbers. Assigning A=1, B=2... FAITH = 44 ROSS = 71 and $4 + 4 = 7 + 1$. So there you have it. 8 must be their lucky number!

REFERENCES

Locations, identified by country, are taken from the United States Board on Geographic Names.